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As noted above, the titanium oxide/carbon composite particles and the silicon oxide/carbon composite particles can be used advantageously in the production of abrasives for surface polishing. Similarly, other metal oxide/carbon composite nanoparticles also can be used in the production of abrasives. The use of nanoscale metal oxide particles in the production of improved abrasives is described in copending and commonly assigned patent application 08/961,735, now U.S. Patent 6,290,735 to Kambe et al., entitled "Abrasive Particles for Surface Polishing," incorporated herein by reference and in copending and commonly assigned patent application 09/085,514 to Kumar et al., entitled "Silicon Oxide Particles," incorporated herein by reference.

*DW* In the Claims

Please cancel claims 1-17 without prejudice or disclaimer.

REMARKS

Claims 18-20 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 1-17 are canceled without prejudice. Also, the specification has been updated with respect to references to copending applications.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of the application are respectfully requested.